

Kyoto, (B), 21: 29–37.

UÉNO, S.-I., 1979. New cave-dwelling trechine beetles from the eastern part of the Kii Peninsula, Central Japan. *Bull. natn. Sci. Mus., Tokyo*, (A), 5: 115–126.

——— 1983. The faunal affinity of the Island of Awaji-shima as viewed from trechine beetles. *Annotnes. zool. japon., Tokyo*, 56: 351–357.

——— 1992. Two new upper hypogean *Trechiamia* (Coleoptera, Trechinae) of zoogeographical interest. *J. speleol. Soc. Japan*, 17: 23–32.

---

*Elytra, Tokyo*, 37(1): 19–20, May 29, 2009

## Occurrence of *Trechoblemus postilenatus* (Coleoptera, Trechinae) in the Upper Hypogean Zone of Northeastern Shikoku, Southwest Japan

Shun-Ichi UÉNO

Department of Zoology, National Museum of Nature and Science,  
3–23–1 Hyakunin-chô, Shinjuku, Tokyo, 169–0073 Japan

It has been well known that the European species of *Trechoblemus*, *T. micros* (HERBST, 1784), frequently occurs in the subterranean domain. JEANNEL (1922, p. 298; 1926, p. 220; 1928, pp. 104–105) recorded the caves and catacombs in which *T. micros* had been known, and commented that “Ses mœurs sont nettement lucifuges, aussi pénètre-t-elle volontiers dans les cavités souterraines.” On the other hand, the East Asian species, *T. postilenatus* (H. W. BATES, 1873, p. 295), is seldom found under the ground. Until now, it has been recorded from caves only twice, both from lava caves lying in Daikon-jima on the Japan Sea coast of West Japan (UÉNO, 1970, p. 604; 1971, p. 182).

Early in the last winter, a *Trechoblemus* was unexpectedly obtained by Masataka YOSHIDA on Ôasa-yama Hill at the northeastern corner of the Island of Shikoku, Southwest Japan. It was found mingled with *Trechiamia uzushio* S. UÉNO in a baited trap set in the upper hypogean zone at a depth of about 50 cm. This is the first record of the species from the upper hypogean zone, and the collecting data are as given below.

*Specimen examined.* 1 ♂, Udatsu-goé, 210 m alt., Orino, Kitanada-chô, Naruto-shi, Tokushima Pref., Southwest Japan, 21–XII–2008, M. YOSHIDA leg. (found in a baited trap set by M. YOSHIDA on 26–XI–2008). (NSMT)

The specimen recorded above is a relatively small and unusually dark-coloured individual, measuring 4.45 mm in the length of body. Colour brown, more or less infuscated in head, pronotum, and lateral parts of elytra; supraorbital areas blackish; each elytron with a large blackish spot extending from basal three-fifths to apical eleventh and from interval 2 to 7; antennae and legs dark yellowish brown to dark brown, obviously darker than in ordinary epigeal individuals. Male genital organ perfectly identical with that of epigeal individuals.

As was already mentioned in the *Notes* following the description of *Trechiana uzushio* (UÉNO, 2009, pp. 17–18), Udatsu-goé is a large quarry of sandstone on a pass lying at the western side of Ōasa-yama Hill. Its working face is completely bare and dry, utterly differing from humid or wet places usually inhabited by *Trechoblemus*. It seems possible that the colonisation of *Trechoblemus* into the upper hypogean zone of this quarry, which was already inhabited by a completely blind species of *Trechiana*, may have been accomplished by night flight, since the hind wings are fully developed in the specimen examined as in epigeal ones.

In closing this brief report, I wish to thank Mr. Masataka YOSHIDA for his kindness in submitting the interesting specimen to me for taxonomic study.

### References

- BATES, H. W., 1873. On the geodephagous Coleoptera of Japan. *Trans. ent. Soc. London*, **1873**: 219–322.
- JEANNEL, R., 1922. Les Trechinae de France (Deuxième partie). *Annls. Soc. ent. France*, **90** [for 1921]: 295–345.
- 1926. Faune Cavernicole de la France avec une étude de conditions d'existence dans le domaine souterrain. *Encycl. ent., Paris*, (A), **7**. 334 pp. Paul Lechevalier, Paris.
- 1928. Monographie des Trechinae. Morphologie comparée et distribution géographique d'un groupe de Coléoptères (3<sup>e</sup> Livraison). *Abeille, Paris*, **35**: i–ii + 1–808.
- UÉNO, S.-I., 1970. The fauna of the insular lava caves in West Japan. III. Trechinae (Coleoptera). *Bull. natn. Sci. Mus., Tokyo*, **13**: 603–622.
- 1971. Ditto. IX. Trechinae (Additional notes). *Ibid.*, **14**: 181–185.
- 2009. New upper hypogean *Trechiana* (Coleoptera, Trechinae) from the northeastern corner of the Island of Shikoku, Southwest Japan. *Elytra, Tokyo*, **37**: 7–19.